# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# STEEL
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:920
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
STEEL WAR
SUNIL KHAN

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Steel War: India criticizes US bid for higher protection` appearing in the Financial Express, New Delhi dated December 25, 2002; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Under the auspices of OECD Secretariat at Paris countries with interest in international steel trade have been deliberating upon issues relating to effectiveness of existing multilateral disciplines relevant for trade in this sector. A High Level Group (HLG) is guiding these meetings on steel issues.Two technical groups under the HLG have been constituted to examine issues relating to steel capacities and market distorting measures. India has been actively participating in these meetings. During the meeting of the Disciplines Study Group held at the OECD Secretariat on 12-13 September 2002, the United States had submitted a paper `Addressing Market Distortions in the Global Steel Sector`.Subsequently the United States also shared this paper with the Negotiating Group on Rules at the WTO.With a view to obtaining a better understanding of the issues contained in this paper, India has sought certain clarifications from the United States regarding, interalia, the appropriate forum for pursuing strengthened disciplines on steel subsidies, elaboration of measures with a subsidy-like effect and the need to take into consideration the development dimension.